The People's Korea

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Bangladesh National Conf. Supports Korea Reunion

A Bangladesh National Conference Supporting the Just Struggle of the Korean People for a Reunified One Korea was held in Dacca on November 7.

Placed on the platform of the hall was a portrait of President Kim Il Sung and a portrait of Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman.

Immortal classic works of President Kim Il Sung and photographs showing the righteous struggle of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country were displayed in the hall.

The conference was attended by Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Chairman of the Bangladesh Solidarity Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification and Chairman of the United People's Party of Bangladesh; Mohammad Toaha, Chairman of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (Marxist-Leninist); Anwar Zahid, General Secretary of the National Awami Party of Bangladesh; Q.G. Ajmiri, Chairman of the Bangladesh-Korea Friendship Association; Gias Kamal Chowdhury, President of the Dacca Union of Journalists; Habibur Rahman, Chairman of the Revolutionary Students' Union of Bangladesh; Arefin Mottalib, Chairman of the Peasants Emancipation Committee of Bangladesh; and other personnel of political parties and public organisations, representatives of various districts and regions, university professors, men of the press, figures of the political and public circles and many citizens of Dacca.

The DPRK Ambassador to Bangladesh was invited to the conference.

The conference presided over by the Chairman of the Bangladesh-Korea Friendship Association heard a report from Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Chairman of the Bangladesh Solidarity Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification and Chairman of the United People's Party of Bangladesh.

The conference heard a report from the chairman of the United People's Party of Bangladesh (See page 2) and speeches of representatives of political parties and public organisations and other personalities.

The reporter and speakers expressed full support and solidarity for the Korean people's struggle to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and expressed their resolution to wage a powerful solidarity movement on a nation-wide scale in support of the reunification of Korea.

They also warmly supported the south Korean people's struggle against fascism and for democracy and demanded the United States withdraw all its aggression forces from south Korea.

A letter to President Kim Il Sung was adopted at the conference.

Also adopted at the conference was its declaration supporting the just struggle of the Korean people for a reunified one Korea, which stressed:

We consider that the policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to reunify the country independently and peacefully without the interference of any outside forces is the most justified sole policy and unconditionally support and encourage this. This is the will of the 80 million Bangladesh people.

In order to actively support and encourage the Korean people in their struggle for the country's independent and peaceful reunification, we declare to form the "Bangladesh National Committee Supporting the Just Struggle of the Korean People for a Reunified One Korea", and wage various solidarity movements including signature campaign on a nation-wide scale.

It was decided at the conference to form the Bangladesh National Committee Supporting the Just Struggle of the Korean People for a Reunified One Korea.

A Bangladesh National Conference Supporting a Reunified One Korea was held in Dacca on Nov. 7.

Declaration

A declaration was adopted at the conference.

The declaration said:

The Bangladesh National Conference Supporting the Just Struggle of the Korean People for a Reunified One Korea was held under the sponsorship of the Bangladesh Solidarity Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification.

Deeming it our sacred duty and due obligation to express full support to and firm solidarity to the Korean people's just struggle, we declare as follows in order to contribute to further accelerating Korea's reunification.

First, we consider that the policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to reunify the country independently and peacefully without the interference of any outside forces is the most jusitified sole policy and unconditionally support and encourage this. This is the will of the 80 million Bangladesh people.

We believe that the three principles and five-point policy for national reunification advanced by the great leader President Kim Il Sung are the most reasonable and realistic policies to reunify the country independently by the Korean people themselves without the interference of any outside forces in accordance with the national interests and the demand of the times, and extend full support to the Korean people's struggle for their realization.

Second, we scathingly condemn the splittists' "two Koreas" plot and will staunchly struggle against it.

We will heighten vigilance against the arguments for "simultaneous entry of the north and the south into the United Nations," "cross recognition" and "three-way talks" which stemmed, in essence, from crafty aggressive methods to maintain imperialist domination and divide and rule Korea.

Third, in order to actively support and encourage the Korean people in their struggle for the country's independent and peaceful reunification, we declare to form the "Bangladesh National Committee Supporting the Just Struggle of the Korean People for a Reunified One Korea," and wage various solidarity movements including signature campaign on a nation-wide scale.

In the last part, the declaration underlines detailed tasks of the national committee. They include the immediate fighting tasks for accelerating the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea such as the question of continuing the struggle till the foreign forces are completely removed from south Korea.

2nd World Women's Conf. Held; Over 250 Delegates Represent 13 Countries

The International Women's Rally to Support the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, with attendance of 250 persons from 11 foreign countries, Japan and Korean residents here, was held on Nov. 27 at Kaiun Builidng, Tokyo, Japan, sponsored by the Japan Executive Committe of the 2nd World Women's Conference.

The first meeting was held in Tokyo in October 1977 by the peace-loving women all over the world aspiring after Korea's reunification.

The meeting was attended by the members of the Japan Executive Committee of the 2nd World Women's Conference—Tanaka Sumiko, Member of the House of Councilors; Yamano Kazuko, Women's Affairs Bureau Chief of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan; and a critic, Kitazawa Yoko, the members of the Japan Preparatory Committee and 13 representatives from 11 foreign countries—Nicaragua, France, Australia, India, Syria, Italy, Sweden, Mexico, Canada, Philippines and America.

Watanabe Michiko, Women's Affairs Bureau Chief of the Japan Socialist Party, made an opening address at the meeting.

Referring to the developments prevailing in south Korea, she said that now is the time to give full support to the Korean people in their sacred struggle for the democratization of south Korea and the independent, peaceful reunification of their home country.

She appealed to the attendants to make all-out efforts for the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea which is deeply connected with peace and democracy in Japan and the world and the liberty of women.

The meeting read out messages from various organizations and personages of foreign countries.

A keynote report (See page 2) was made at the meeting by Tanaka Sumiko, Member of House of Councilors and member of the Preparatory Committee of the Conference.

Referring to obstacles to Korea's reunification, she criticized the United States, the south Korean authorities and the Japanese government. The U.S. imperialists, bent on maintaining south Korea as their nuclear base and strategic base in the Far East, stationing the troops in south Korea. The south Korean authorities are making all-out efforts to prolong their remaining dirty days, entirely depending on the U.S.'s aggressive policy towards Asia. The Japanese ruling quarters are willing to take active part in the U.S.-south Korea-Japan military integration in order to shore up the toppling south Korean authorities.

She called on the peace-and democracy-loving people all over the world to work hard in order to help resume the democratic dialogue for the reunification of Korea in opposition to the "two Koreas" plot.

After the keynote report, speeches (See page 2) were made by representatives of Australia, Canada, France, India, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, Sweden, Syria and America.

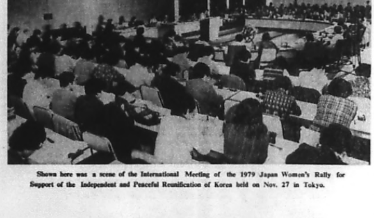
Pak Chong Hyon, Chairman of the Korean Democratic Women's Union in Japan, also made speech at the meeting.

The appeal to women of the world was adopted at the meeting.

A grand party was arranged on the evening of the same day and at the same place by the Japan Executive Committee of the nd World Women's Conference for the Reunification of Korea.

Foreign delegates on the morning of Nov. 29 in Tokyo paid a courtesy call to Chairman Han Duk Su of the CSC of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan). The Korean Democratic Women's Union in Japan arranged a grand reception on the evening of Nov. 29 at Hotel New Otani, Tokyo, in order to welcome the foreign delegates.

The similar meeting was held on Dec. 1 in Osaka with the attendance of 1,500 persons.



Shown here was a scene of the International Meeting of the 1979 Japan Women's Rally for Support of the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea held on Nov. 27 in Tokyo.

Unabated Anti-"Yusin Constitution" Struggle in S. Korea

The south Korean people are waging vigorous struggles for the total repeal of "the yusin constitution" and the democratization of society in defiance of the "martial law" clamped on the whole of south Korea, as a meeting against the "presidential election" projected under the "yusin constitution" was held on Nov. 24 at the Christian Youth Hall in downtown Seoul with the attendance of some 1,000 students and personages of all strata.

About 3,000 students and citizens in Kwangju, South Cholla Province, held a large-scale meeting on the night of Nov. 28 in demand of democracy, responding to the appeal of the attendants of a "national meeting for curbing the election of an interim president by the national conference for unification" held in Seoul on Nov. 24, and strongly demanded the abolition of the "*yusin* system".

November 28 is the first day which students and opposition figures at a meeting held in Myongdong, Seoul, last weekend called, fixing the time (six p.m.), upon the people throughout south Korea to rise to curb the "presidential election" by the "national conference for unification."

According to a report confirmed in Seoul, a meeting demanding democracy was held past seven on the afternoon of Nov. 28 at the Christian Youth Hall in downtown Kwangju under the sponsorship of six organizations including the "Kwangju Christian Federation," "Kwangju Catholic Priest Corps," "Council of Dismissed Professors "and "Council of Democratic Youth for Human Rights."

It was reportedly attended by nearly 3,000 students and citizens and adopted a statement expressing their "opposition to the election of a president by the national conference for unification" and demanding the "prohibition of political activities of the *yusin* remnants."

The riot police arrested 18 persons, harshly cracking down upon the attendants of the meeting.

Meanwhile, handbills of the same contents were scattered at a tea house and three other places in downtown Seoul and three or four students were arrested.

On Nov. 27, Christian students in Seoul waged a struggle till late at night in protest against the south Korean authorities' suppression.

The "Hanguk General Union of Christian Students," one of the Christian student organizations of south Korea, planned to hold a prayer meeting marking the 10th anniversary of the formation of the union with the attendance of 500 students at six p.m. that day at the Christian Hall in Chongro district, Seoul.

The "martial law command" of south Korea refused to permit the prayer meeting on the pretext that it is "liable to become a political meeting." Enraged at this, the students waged a sit-in in the hall and held an unauthorized meeting in defiance of the prohibition.

The riot police who had been standing opposed to the students, surrounding the hall that night pretended to lift the encirclement and withdraw at around 10:30. But they rushed again to the hall after a short while and broke into a room on the seventh floor of the hall where the students were holding a meeting, and arrested them.

Among those who were taken to the police station is Kim Yong Gil, wife of Christian pastor Mun Ik Hwan. The number of the arrested is 54.

When those who were arrested earlier are put together, the number of the arrested at the hall that day exceeds 60.

About 1,000 Yonse collegians and over 500 Seoul ones also held an anti-"government" meeting on Nov. 27 in defiance of the fascist "extraordinary martial law," following the scattering of handbills demanding campus democracy at universities in south Korea in the last few days.

Thirteen student study circles of Yonse University made public a joint statement demanding campus democracy.

At the end of a meeting held at the university, a student representative read out the statement before some 1,000 students.

The statement strongly demanded the reinstatement of all the unreasonably expelled students and dismissed professors and an end to the fascist campus surveillance.

It also demanded the dissolution of the "student homeland defence corps," a military organization in the campus, and the restoration of the dissolved student council.

The "Christian Action Organization" of south Korea comprising 17 missionary groups on Nov. 23 made public a statement strongly urging the authorities to "immediately lift the martial law and write a new constitution to assure free elections."

In the statement the organization held that the "military should not interfere in politics and all political prisoners should be released."

The statement expressed support to the special statement issued by the "national union for democracy and national unification" on Nov. 12 in demand of the abolition of the "*yusin* system."

Five anti-fascist fighting organizations including "the council of dismissed professors" and "the council of men of letters for practising freedom," in south Korea made public a joint statement on Nov. 13 in protest against the scheme of the south Korean authorities to maintain the criminal "*yusin* system."

The statement demanded the repeal of "emergency decree No. 9" and the "emergency martial law," the guarantee of the freedom of the press and the freedom of expression for realizing democracy, the unconditional and immediate release of all political prisoners and the restoration of their rights, and the protection of the rights and reinstatement of the clergymen, pressmen, students and working people who were persecuted under the "*yusin* system."

The south Korean authorities will meet the same kind of miserable end as Pak Jung Hi was shot dead by his confidents if they pay attention to the fascist suppression and the divisive manoeuvres, shutting eye to democratic demand of the south Korean people.

No forces can hold in check the south Korean people advancing for the total revocation of "*yusin* constitution" and democratization of the society.

South Korean democrats burning voting cards to protest against "the election of the members of the national conference for unification" (May, 1978).

KOREA FOCUS

40 Days after Pak's Death

More than 40 days have elapsed since the assassination of Pak Jung Hi, with intensifying struggles between the democratic dissident forces and the supporters of the present "*yusin*" regime. The former want a new political system, while the latter insist on maintaining the old regime. A political situation in south Korea remains still volatile.

A deteriorating crisis was spotlighted when anti-"*yusin*" democratic forces staged a mass rally in Seoul on November 24. The rally was disguised as a wedding ceremony because a political rally was banned under martial law. The attendants at the meeting included most of the key figures of the democratic movement. The rally, chaired by the Rev. Ham Sok Hon, issued what it termed the "Statement for the Formation of a Democratic Coalition Cabinet." The statement described the assassination of the dictator as a result of the many years of a democratic campaign and declared that everything must begin with the thorough liquidation of the "*yusin*" regime.

The "*yusin*" regime was created by Pak Jung Hi in an illegal manner under martial law for the purpose of perpetuating his one-man rule. The south Korean people called it "another coup." As the death of Pak removed the original purpose of the "*yusin*" regime, it is only too natural that the regime should be denied and abolished as soon as possible.

Yet, the south Korean army leaders and the other ruling quarters plan to retain the "*yusin*" regime. They have never referred to the restoration of democracy during the past 40-odd days as the south Korean people and the world public want it strongly as never before. If any, they cautiously used the words "political development"—Carter and Vance before used them. Why are they reluctant to admit the misdeeds of the "*yusin*" regime which was responsible for the imprisonment and slaughter of numerous people and the deprivation of their human rights? Why are they reluctant to commit themselves to the restoration of democracy to redress those evils? The answer is simple. They are least interested in so doing. A series of talks with Opposition leaders are intended to improve the image of the Choi regime. It is clear when a meeting between Choi Gyu Ha and the Opposition leader Yun Po Son was officially announced but later cancelled to let the martial law command grill Mr. and Mrs. Yun Po Son.

The martial law command officials and the other ruling quarters frequently refer to "a gradual not drastic change." Here is a question. In 1961, the May 16 coup was carried to success overnight. At the time of the October "*yusin*" reforms in 1972, the constitution was instantly suspended, the national assembly dissolved, and the "*yusin* constitution" enforced in a matter of one month. Were they not drastic changes? When their criminal acts were conducted, drastic acts were condoned, while when the people want democracy, they are prohibited from moving so fast. What a conflicting logic!

They (the ruling quarters) speak of "a constitutional amendment," but fall short of the details of or the date of the planned revision. No deadline was set for the lifting of martial law. The revocation of "emergency decree" makes no sense as long as martial law is kept in effect. Martial law curbs freedom and democratic rights far more harshly than "emergency decrees." Martial law bans the political activities of parties, public organizations and ordinary citizens, restricts the freedom of the press, speech, assembly and association. What is the significance of a "constitutional revision" under martial law? It is a replay of the 1972 "*yusin*" reforms.

Offensive in particular is the outrageous conduct of the army leaders. The army has increased their say in the past period. The meeting of commanding officers of the whole army was held on November 24, under the chairmanship of Gen. Chong Sung Hwa, army chief of staff, an accomplice in the assassination of Pak Jung Hi. The meeting produced a three-point policy platform: it is the duty of the armed forces (1) to preserve national security, law and order, (2) to safeguard the economic order, and (3) to improve the moral fibre. The guideline carries two implications. The first is that martial law will be kept in effect for a great long period and the second is that the military will exert control over political and economic affairs, beyond their fundamental task of military defense.

At the present juncture, martial law is a legal basis for the military to intervene in politics. It is their most effective weapon. The martial law command on Nov. 19 issued a warning that "any reckless move will be subject to relentless punishment." Troops were mobilized in a raid on the afore-mentioned November 24 meeting. As Li Min U, deputy President of the New Democratic Party, pointed out, the three objectives of the proclamation of martial law—(1) preparations for the "threat of southward invasion from the north", (2) the maintenance of social stability and order, and (3) the investigation of the Pak assassination case—have already been achieved, necessitating the prompt lifting of martial law. The army first said that it would return to their normal duties as early as possible but now tries to concern itself with politics.

The United States seems to have endorsed such moves of the south Korean military. In the wake of the murder of Pak, the United States alerted its troops in south Korea, sent air and naval reinforcements to south Korea and its adjacent areas, and defended its action as "necessary to deal with the threat from the north." Even after it was confirmed by AWACS that the northern forces had made no unusual troop movement, the American forces remain in the same alertness. A special warfare detachement of the air force is undergoing an intensive drill at the Anderson AFB on Guam Island in the Pacific in anti-guerrilla operations, counter-insurgency maneuvers and psychological warfare. Reports say that that detachment is to move to south Korea after their drill is over. An impression is strong that the duty of that special-warfare unit is to help control the mounting pressures for democratic reforms in south Korea. The U.S. armed forces are intensifying their military posture in order to cow the south Korean people and sharpen the situation. Under these circumstances, Gen. Takeuchi, chairman of the joint staff council of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces, is visiting south Korea in mid-December. While warning against a third party's intervention in south Korea, the United States is carrying out the most blatant intervention.

The south Korean democratic struggle has recorded n impressive advance against such heavy odds. They are full of confidence in the fact that their long-protracted struggle has created a good opportunity to terminate the notorious "*yusin*" regime. They are closing their ranks in a rare show of unity. Nothing can stem this mighty movement for democracy. In defiance of the strong Opposition protests, the "presidential election" was carried out on December 6 under the "*yusin* constitution," in an effort to legalize the "*yusin*" regime of Choi Gyu Ha. The masses of people who kicked off the Pusan and Masan affairs against the Pak "*yusin*" regime are certain to react with greater and more ruthless resistance.

Appeal (Summary)

An appeal was adopted at the International Women's Rally to Support the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea which was held in Tokyo on November 27. Follows a summary of the appeal:

Women all over the world,

We had an International Women's Rally to Support the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea in Tokyo on November 27, 1979.

Foreign guests from 11 countries, Korean women in Japan and women from all parts of Japan, more than 200 women all told, shared their views on the question of Korean reunification.

We reached the conclusion that the division of the Korean Peninsula must no longer be prolonged either in view of the national stand of the Korean people or in view of world peace, especially peace in Asia, and the humanitarian stand of women's emancipation.

The efforts of the Korean people for national reunification have all along been continued till today.

North-south dialogue was realised in 1972, culminating in the publication of the July 4 North-South Joint Statement.

Unfortunately, the north-south dialogue was suspended due to the then south Korean puppet government's manoeuvres and outside forces.

After that the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea repeatedly called for north-south dialogue.

The voices supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea grew louder all over the world.

Contacts between the north and the south were arranged three times since February 1979. But, almost coinciding with this, a large-scale U.S.-south Korea joint military exercise codenamed "team spirit '79" took place near the Demarcation Line.

We regard it as an act obstructing the reunification and peace of Korea.

In the meantime, a "simultaneous entry into the UN," "cross recognition" of north and south Korea, "three-way talks," and so forth, have been proposed by some forces in Japan, the United States and south Korea. We regard them as designed to freeze the division of Korea into the north and south and "two Koreas."

We support the south Korean people who are struggling in demand of the abolition of the "yusin constitution" and establishment of a democratic government.

For the realization of Korean reunification, the whole nation must be allowed to solve the reunification question independently, without outside interference, on the basis of the inviolable rights to self-determination and independence recognized in international law and all the foreign troops be withdrawn from south Korea.

We call for support to the July 4 North-South Joint Statement and a stop to all unreasonable acts of interfering with the sovereignty of the Korean people and obstructing reunification, so that a breakthrough can be made possible in the democratisation of south Korean society and reunification demanded by the Korean people through cooperation, unity and solidarity.

We appeal to the women all over the world to express solidarity with the women of north and south Korea.

Keynote Report

Tanaka Sumiko, Socialist Member of the Upper House of Japan, made a keynote report at the International Women's Rally to Support the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea. It was followed by special reports, which were presented by Doi Takako, Socialist Member of the Lower House of Japan, Japanese critic Kawada Yasuyo and Kwon Mal Ja, representative of the "Council for Defence of the Human Rights of the South Korean Women." They respectively spoke of "On Japan-South Korean Fusion and the Kim Dae Jung Question," "On the Infringement on the Human Rights of the Koreans in Japan" and "On the Struggle for Democratisation in South Korea."

In the first part of her keynote report, Tanaka pointed to the international situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula.

In the second part of the report he referred to the harsher violation of human rights and the intensified struggle for democracy in south Korea.

In the third part she dwelt on tasks for promoting the international solidarity movement in support of the struggle of the Korean people and women.

Noting that it is a pressing task to make the United States and Japan change their Korean policy based on the U.S.-Japan-south Korea military system, she said:

To make the U.S. and Japanese governments change their Korean policy, we demand as follows:

—The U.S. Government

1) Immediately withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea, stop introducing nuclear weapons into south Korea and ship them out of there.

2) Promptly respond to the proposal of the DPRK side on holding Korea-U.S. negotiations and replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement.

3) Discontinue U.S.-south Korea joint exercises and military exercises of the U.S. forces with U.S. bases in Japan as their theatre.

4) Break off the U.S.-south Korea fusion and end political, military and economic interference in south Korea.

5) Implement the resolution adopted at the 30th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, respect the Korean people's right to national self-determination and refrain from obstructing north-south dialogue for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

6) Stop encouraging the suppression of human rights and the fascist rule in south Korea and thoroughly probe into suspicion concerning political and financial figures who are in collusion with the "Central Intelligence Agency."

—The Japanese Government

1) Immediately isolve the U.S.-Japan-south Korea military system and stop helping south Korea in increasing its military strength and "cooperating" with U.S.-south Korea joint exercises.

2) End political and economic backing to the reactionary "regime" of south Korea and support the struggle of the south Korean people against the "yusin system" and for a democratic constitution and democratic government.

3) Thoroughly probe into Japan-south Korea fusion and disclose and punish irregularities.

4) Stop supporting the policy of suppressing human rights and put an end to the political suppression of Korean residents and south Koreans in Japan.

5) Force the "international league for victory over communism" and the "Central Intelligence Agency," the anti-"communist" fascist forces of south Korea to stop their activities in Japan.

6) Withdraw the "political settlement" of the Kim Dae Jung case, protest against the infringement upon Japan's sovereignty and realise the restoration of Kim Dae Jung to his former status.

7) Renounce the unfriendly policy towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and further liberalise personal, economic and cultural intercourse with the DPRK.

8) Ensure the rights of the Korean residents, south Koreans in Japan on an equal footing with other foreigners on the basis of the fact that it is an obligation under the international regulations on human rights.

80 Mil. Bangladesh People Will Stand by Koreans

Report by Chairman of United People's Party of Bangladesh

Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Chairman of the Bangladesh Solidarity Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification and Chairman of the United People's Party of Bangladesh, delivered a report to the Bangladesh National Conference Supporting the Just Struggle of the Korean People for a Reunified One Korea held in Dacca on November 7.

He said:

The forcible nation-splitting manoeuvres committed by the U.S. imperialists, who lord it over in south Korea, are a wanton violation of the sovereignty of the Korean people and robber-like aggressive act.

Korea's division is, in fact, a root cause of all sorts of her people's misfortunes. Reunifying the country is, therefore, a vital problem for the Korean people and an important problem for ensuring peace in Asia and the world.

Feeling bitterly a national tragedy, the great leader President Kim Il Sung has set the reunification of the country as the task of prime importance from the first days of national division and directed every possible effort to bringing reunification to accomplishment.

The great President has advanced the basic policy for national reunification to realize reunification independently without foreign interference in a peaceful way and on the democratic principle.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung, basing himself on this basic policy, put forward proposals for national reunification on more than 150 occasions in keeping with the situation.

Nevertheless, instead of accepting all the fair and reasonable proposals put forward by the Government of the Republic, the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean reactionaries covered the whole of south Korea with networks of army, police and intelligence to suppress the south Korean people brutally, seeking the country's perpetual division.

We send firm solidarity to the south Korean people in their struggle for the democratisation of society and the country's reunification and condemn with surging indignation the bestial suppression by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

I consider that the policies set forth by the great leader President Kim Il Sung are the most realistic and just ones with which the divided Korea can be reunified.

The U.S. imperialists should immediately stop armed intervention in south Korea and withdraw all their troops from south Korea at once and respond to the proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for talks to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement.

The south Korean reactionaries should put an end to the cruel suppression of the south Korean people's struggle immediately and take the road to reunification, not the road to build a wall for division in dependence on outside forces.

The 80 million Bangladesh people will stand by the Korean people struggling for the country's reunification at all times.

I appeal to you to form a Bangladesh national committee supporting the just struggle of the Korean people for a reunified one Korea to actively support and encourage the Korean people's struggle for the country's independent and peaceful reunification so that we can launch a strong campaign to extend solidarity to their struggle on a nationwide scale.

Speeches were also made at the conference.

Nuran Nabi, General Secretary of the Bangladesh-Korea Friendship Association, said:

Today the progressive people all over the world are ever more explicit in their support for the peace and reunification of Korea without outside interference. But due to continuous presence of U.S. forces in south Korea, overlooking the protests from all over the world, the earnest desire of the Korean people has remained unfulfilled.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the dynamic leadership of the great leader Marshal Kim Il Sung has become a powerful industrial state which will inspire the southern people to further intensify their struggle against the U.S. imperialists and to attain the goal of peaceful reunification.

Anwar Zahid, General Secretary of the National Awami Party (Bhashani), stated:

South Korea is one of those places in the world where colonialism is still existing although in a different form.

South Korea is a powerful American military base in Asia which America claims is being maintained for the sake of balance of power.

America controls south Korea to use it as the market of her finished goods.

He said that the entire Korean people would stand together to realize the long-cherished desire to reunify the fatherland.

Mohammad Toaha, Chairman of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (Marxist-Leninist), declared:

The people of Bangladesh have been watching carefully the developments in south Korea and fully support the just struggle of the south Korean people for democratization.

I like to announce that till the earnest desire of the Korean people is realized, the people of Bangladesh will continuously stand by the entir Korean people in their just struggl for reunification.

Speeches at Int'l Women's Rally

Thirteen delegates from 11 countries spoke at the international women's rally. Introduced here are gists of speeches given by six participants. (Titles are ours...Ed.)

At the International Women's Rally to Support Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea held in Tokyo, Nov. 27, Korean, Japanese and other foreign participants raised their hands, hand in hand, determined to fight in unison for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

Progressive Americans Will Be At Root of Struggle

HANNA M. LESSINGER, Professor in Anthropology, Barnard College, Columbia Univ.

The dictator Pak Jung Hi was assassinated just a month ago. His mysterious death came in the wake of weeks of demonstrations among students and workers. The rising tide of anger among the Korean people was fueled by economic collapse, massive official corruption and intense political repression.

It is clear that Pak was assassinated because he no longer served the interests of the U.S. Government. The U.S. sees a divided Korea as a continuing arena for American investment and economic exploitation, as well as an Asian base for its global anti-communism.

The U.S. has a long and shameful history of supporting one puppet regime after another—ever since the U.S. engineered the partition of Korea in 1945. Since then the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), headed by President Kim Il Sung, has repeatedly proposed a dialogue aimed at peaceful reunification. But the U.S. and its puppets have sabotaged these efforts at every turn. As recently as last July, President Jimmy Carter visited south Korea for the sole purpose of bolstering the dictatorship. In the process Carter abandoned his previous campaign promise to withdraw 40,000 American troops stationed there.

One of the methods by which the U.S. and its Seoul puppets managed to prevent a dialogue on reunification was to propose "tripartite talks" —based on the supposition of two Koreas. These talks, which would have imposed unacceptable conditions on the DPRK, were simply a smokescreen to cover a continued U.S. presence in south Korea.

Although Pak is now dead, his repressive apparatus of secret police and covert agents remains intact.

It is the duty of progressive people in the U.S. to apply pressure to our own government—to demonstrate and to agitate for a withdrawal of U.S. troops and arms, to call for U.S. participation in a genuine dialogue with the DPRK.

Now that Pak is gone, what direction will the new government take? Although it has allegedly released many of political prisoners, south Korean security police have simultaneously rounded up hundreds more —civil rights activists, labor activists, political opponents and journalists. And the U.S. has announced its firm backing of Pak's successor.

The events of the last two years have shown one thing, however. The aspirations of the south Korean people will not be quelled, however great the repression. From the bourgeois opposition to the women's, studnets' and workers' struggle there is an overwhelming desire for democratic rights and a peaceful reunification of Korea.

Korea must be unified according to the three principles of the "North-South Joint Statement" of July 4th, 1972, which said that all of Korea should be unified as soon as possible independently and peacefully as one nation.

In closing I wish to assure you that, just as the U.S. Government is at the root of so many of the troubles in Korea, so progressive people in the U.S., will be at the root of a struggle to get all foreign troops and weapons removed from Korean soil. We in the U.S.—women and men alike— must insist that our own government permit the Korean people to have the opportunity to determine their own future—free from external interference and internal dictatorship.

Tragedy of Korea Related to Deeply-Rooted Crisis Affecting Human Race

SHEILA M. YOUNG, Chairman, the Canadian Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

In this short address I wish to emphasize what I consider to be the moral responsibility of the peoples of the Western world in relation to the Korean question. I am sure all will agree that steps towards meaningful negotiations between the north and south depend upon the withdrawal of all troops, nuclear and other weapons of the United States, and a definite end to their military and political control of the South.

While the death of President Pak may bring some changes and concessions because of the world-wide unfavorable publicity his repressive regime evoked, we know it is highly improbable that the south Korean government will be freed of domination by the United States, or that President Carter will change his plans to retain and augment current military forces.

We must face the fact that the Korean Peninsula is by far too valuable a prize, strategically, to be abandoned without terrific pressure. It is the last toehold of the United States in Asia, and a much-needed springboard in the event of war.

It is also a strategic area both economically and militarily for Japan.

Obviously, massive external support of the principles of peaceful reunification is imperative, and to be successful, it must be infinitely greater than that of today. I am convinced that the key to this extremely dangerous situation rests with citizens of Western nations, and in particular, those of the United States.

WHY?

1. Their moral responsibility for actions by the United States with support of governments of the Western world.

2. They the citizens of the Western world have the inherent power to demand, peaceably, that their respective governments insist upon withdrawal of the United States from Korea.

3. A peaceful solution to the prolonged crisis in Korea could well be the determining factor of a peaceful future in the Western world.

Perhaps one of the most vital facts of this issue is one that is the least understood, which is that Korea is not an isolated tragedy. It is related to every deeply-rooted crisis affecting the human race. It is inseparable from the accumulated results of the blood-soaked history of 'man's inhumanity to man', the consequences of which now overshadow us all with an umbrella of nuclear 'overkill'.

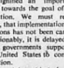
In 1973 and again in 1975, the Non-Aligned States presented to the United Nations General Assembly important Resolutions dealing with the Korean question. Both Resolutions were approved by a fair majority, which signified an important step forward towards the goal of peaceful reunification. We must remember, however, that implementation of those Resolutions has not been carried out. Unquestionably, it is delayed because Western governments support plans of the United States to continue its intervention.

In my opinion, this lack of action in the United Nations provides an opportunity for individuals and groups of the West to press their respective governments to demand in the United Nations General Assembly that the requirements of the substance of the Resolutions be honoured. I know that my own organization and many others in Canada, the United States and Europe have urged their governments that this be done.

I maintain that the collective peaceful power of the people of Korea together with sufficient dedicated supporters in Japan, in the Non-Aligned States, Western and other nations could thwart the plans over the U.S. and Japan, and prepare the way for Koreans to achieve independent and peaceful reunification.

There Must Be No More Interference in Solution of Korean Problem

JEAN MELZER, Labour Senator of Australia



At one period in 1977, President Jimmy Carter, during his election campaign, said he would remove American troops from south Korea. This appeared to cause very real terror in the hearts of those governing that part of the country. They obviously felt that, without the backing of those American troops and weapons, they would not hold the people there in subjugation for long.

However, it was when President Pak suggested to the Americans that, if they were withdrawing, they allow his forces to take control of the tactical nuclear weapons maintained by the United States in south Korea, that many people in Australia began to be alarmed. Australian people became greatly alarmed when President Pak went further and said Australian uranium would now be essential to south Korea. He said that it would be essential so that south Korea could be sure it would be able to put nuclear warheads on the weapons south Korea already has.

We are, however, very much aware that the solution to the problem must come from the Korean people themselves. There must be no more interference. Assistance and advice may be acceptable. The United States and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as signatories to the Armistice Agreement, must talk. It would appear essential that all the political elements in Korea must be brought together if a lasting worthwhile answer is to be found.

We in Australia are far away in distance from the Korean people and we would like to show support but we do need specific plans.

I realise that there have been those who have worked towards isolating the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and those of us who are concerned should have taken greater steps to break through that isolation. But I would like to take back to Australia some firm proposals coming from the Korean people that would lead to :

1. Reunification that could be achieved independently without reliance on outside forces or interference.

2. Reunification achieved by peaceful means without recourse to arms by either side.

3. Korea, one nation, united overcoming differences that arise from ideology and ideals.

Struggle Now More Intense, More Necessary than Ever Before

INA SANSONE, General Secretary, the Italian Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification

In these last few months we have witnessed an unprecedented thrust of the Korean people's struggle in the south and we have seen that international support by all the peoples of the world grow accordingly.

The recent Korean developments, i.e., the assassination of President Pak and the proclamation of martial law, clearly indicate that the imperialist circles have started to fear this great popular movement.

The President of the United States himself, Mr. Jimmy Carter, had recently taken some distance from Pak, finding it impossible to support such an unpleasant and inconvenient ally!

There has been an attemp to cheat public opinion by eliminating Pak and by artfully suggesting that something might be changing.

There are two main obstacles to an independent and peaceful reunification of Korea: The presence of foreign troops and south Korea's anti-democratic regime, controlled by foreign capitalism.

The present situation in south Korea cannot be modified by a mere changing of the guard or by means of any amnesty provisions that might be taken in the future in order to hush up south Korean and international public opinion.

To achieve a regime of freedom in south Korea, the first necessary step is to abolish the yushin constitution and all the emergency laws. Secondly, to allow the south Korean people to freely elect their own government and to decide their own future without any foreign interference.

The constant violation of human rights in south Korea has had the mere scope of preventing the reunification of the country. And since there is no reason to believe right now that the forces of division are prepared to give up their privileges (which are the use of Korean soil for a strategic military base and the exploitation of the Korean people as low-cost labour), we must thus convince ourselves that the struggle is now more intense and more necessary than ever before.

Nicaraguan People Have Special Reasons To Support Peaceful Reunion of Korea

VIOLETA DE CHAMORRO, Member, the Leadership Council of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua

... I have a very special responsibility to carry back to my compatriots information about the efforts to reunify Korea. I am sure that my compatriots will actively support the efforts to reunify Korea and that the women of Nicaragua will provide a special force of solidarity.

We, the women of Nicaragua who fought against tyranny in the fields and cities of Nicaragua, have special reasons to support the peaceful reunifcation of Korea in accord with the principles expressed in the North-South Joint Statement of July 4, 1972. There are several similarities between the situation of Korea and that of Nicaragua.

All of the preceding speakers have very correctly emphasized the importance of international solidarity with the movement for the peaceful reunification of Korea. I hate to imagine where the women of Nicaragua would be today were it not for the international support that was shown for our liberation struggle. That same political, material and moral support must be shown for the peaceful reunification efforts. Like the other international delegates I will return to urge the mass organizations and even the government of my nation to support these reunification efforts.

As former victims of the bloodied dictatorship in Latin America, I can guarantee you the energetic solidarity of Nicaraguan women with the victims of human rights abuses by the southern military regime.

I would like to close by stating that it is my earnest desire to see the people of Korea reunited under a single flag and with a single national destiny. When outside forces are removed, I am sure that the people of Korea will succeed in their desire to reunite.

World Public Will Force U.S. to Withdraw from S. Korea

MANMOHINI SAHGAL, Deputy General Secretary, the National Federation of Indian Women

Almost 34 years have passed since Korea was divided into North and South. Originally the Korean nation was a homogeneous nation and Korea was an unified state. The Korean people have the same language, culture and customs. Korea was liberated from long years of Japanese imperialist rule on August 15, 1945. The Korean people rose as one to build a new society, but their hopes to build a happy life in whole Korea on September 8, 1945, a little more than 20 days after the liberation of Korea, were frustrated under the pretext of disarming the defeated Japanese Army. So, this prolonged division of Korea against the will of its people is entirely due to the United States imperialists' occupation of south Korea and their policy of aggression.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea Government, political parties and social organisations have advanced proposals for peaceful reunification on about 150 occasions since the division of Korea.

This shows the sincere and true desire of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung to reunify their country. But in spite of all these efforts, none of these proposals has produced any desired result due to the manoeuvres of the splittists at home and abroad. The United States imperialists from the very beginning hampered in every way re-establishment of Korea as a democratic, united and independent state because of their designs to keep south Korea as their permanent colony and military base to threaten the peace in Asia and the world.

At present south Korea is in a grave situation in which it must decide whether to proceed along the path of fascism and division as before or else to take the new path of democracy and peaceful reunification. The Korean question is directly related to peace and security in Asia. Only when the Korean question is directly and peacefully solved and tension removed, can the peace in Asia be preserved and consolidated. I am confident that the combined voice of all peace-loving people of the world will force the United States imperialists to withdraw from south Korea. I take this opportunity to congratulate the south Korean patriots for constantly putting their heroic struggle for reunification of north-south Korea. I support them and wish them all successes in their noble mission.

S. Koreans Favor Contact, Reunification With North

In south Korea today, there is a growing public demand for making contacts with Pyongyang, as the Pyongyang side, in an editorial of Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK), came up with another flexible proposal to the Seoul side for north-south cooperation in various fields of economy, culture, education, etc., which, it says, will inevitably lead to the reunification of north and south Korea.

As if responding to Pyongyang's proposal, former south Korean "president" Yun Bo Son, in his interview with Newsweek's Bernard Krisher in Seoul, emphasized the importance of making contacts with Pyongyang.

"...We should in fact, begin anew to make contacts with the north to promote some exchanges, initially in the sports and culture fields," said Yun Bo Son. (Newsweek, November 26, 1979)

He also denounced the present ruling circles, saying that most of the ministers have a bad reputation among the people because they blindly followed Pak Jung Hi's policies, regardless of whether he was right or wrong.

Kim Yong Sam, head of the Opposition New Democratic Party, also supported the idea of promoting north-south cooperation and dialogue as promoting the unity of the people of north and south.

On Nov. 9, Kim Yong Sam was interviewed by Helmut Rack, a Far East correspondent of the DRS Radio in Bern and said that it was quite possible to have a talk with the north if the present regime changed its policy toward Pyongyang.

"In my opinion, a dialogue between north and south should be promoted in a democratic way, and I think our representatives(Seoul side) to such a talk should be composed of democratic leaders," said Kim Yong Sam, and went on: "It is a good thing to have a talk with the north. Because both of us are the same Koreans. The purposes of the talk can be varied. Talks on finding the whereabouts of separated families or on the exchange of reporters and scholars are possible. And even talks on the exchange of correspondence would serve to clear the air on the Korean Peninsula."

This year, too, the DPRK made every possible effort to have reunification talks with south Korea by making flexible proposals acceptable to the Seoul side.

When the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for Reunification of the Fatherland came out with a four-point proposal on Jan. 23, inviting the south Korean authorities, opposition parties, public organizations, individual persons and overseas Koreans to attend a pan-national congress, almost all south Korean legislators favored north-south talks. According to south Korean daily Tong-A Ilbo dated on Feb. 21, 90.4% of the south Korean national assemblymen expressed their support for north-south talks for reunification.

In the past, demands of the south Korean dissidents, students and democratic personalities for north-south contact and reunification have been made in their declarations and statements.

Excerpts from their demands for reunification and contact with the north follow:

Our efforts are aimed not at increasing hatred and disputes inside the same people but at achieving peaceful co-existence, exchanges and unification for peace on the Korean Peninsula and for world peace.

(from the Declaration for Democracy and National Salvation issued by the National Union for Democracy and National Unification, March 4, 1979)

We must view national reunification as the foremost task of our people. Dodging this job is tantamount to dodging the worst tragedy of our nation, the abandonment of Korean cultural heritage.

Korea must be reunified as a result of the exploitation by the Korean people of these resources, come what may. In short, we the Korean people must become a decisive motive force in the reunification process, the only way that will enable us to become real masters of a reunified Korea.

(from the article of Pastor Mun Ik Hwan contributed to the July-August 1978 issue of "The Voice of the People", a vernacular monthly journal in Seoul)

Firstly, reunification is the greatest task of our national history. The 5,000-year national history of hardships and the national spirit which is alive in our veins make reunification an absolute necessity and an absolute ultimate aim. Naturally, therefore, reunification should not be any ideology, nor should it be any means of prolonging the regime. But it should be the end itself and be attained voluntarily and peacefully with the people's will to reunification democratically crystallized, not unilaterally through armed power.

(from the declaration issued by Seoul University students, September 13, 1978)

Under whatsoever circumstances, it is the overriding job of our nation to achieve national reunification. Divided, our nation will perish. The loss of nationhood is not necessarily identical with physical perish.

To have the country reunified is never a simple exertion of physical power but is our clear claim to the moral life. The assumption of this life is that the separated halves of our country from the absolutely necessary limbs and body. We must know to respect each other's personality under any circumstances.

(from the article of the Rev. Ham Sok Hon, a Quaker leader in s. Korea, contributed to a vernacular Seoul monthly magazine "The Voice of the People" in its June 1978 issue)

Firstly, the press should not generate hostile sentiments in order to improve the north-south relations. Fostering reconciliation helps to create a climate for north-south dialogue. A demand for dialogue on one hand and mudslinging on the other can never aid the creation of conditions conducive to north-south dialogue. Halting mudslinging may not produce any instant help to the search for north-south talks. Any campaign should be conducted in a fair manner.

(from the article of Song Gon Ho, former editor-in-chief of the Tong-A Ilbo, contributed to the July-August issue of "The Voice of the People")

We will advance toward reunification as a national desire.

The reunification issue should be settled in a spirit of sincere rapprochement. Approach to the national desire of reunification should be initiated by the masses. We affirm once again the truth that only democracy can pave the way for the settlement of the reunification issue, enabling the masses to participate in and give their own ideas about it. Our struggle against the dictatorship and for democracy represents the national will to bring about reunification.

(from the "Declaration for Democratic Nation" issued by the National Coalition for Democracy, July 10, 1978)

National unification is today the supreme task which must be carried by all the Korean people. The barrier dividing north and south must be brought down by the combined strength and wisdom of all 50 million Koreans. If any individual or group uses or obstructs national unification, for its own strategic purpose, it will be impossible to escape the strict judgement of history.

(from the "Declaration for Democracy and National Salvation" issued by Kim Dae Jung and 11 others at the prayer meeting at the Myongdong Cathedral in Seoul, March 1, 1976)

We want the reunification of the Korean Peninsula above all things. We hope ardently for peace, but we do not want peace at the price of permanent division between north and south.

(from the "March 1 Declaration of Democracy" issued by south Korean dissident leaders, Feb. 24, 1978)

We now stand at a critical cross-roads of national history to choose between life and death, between freedom and slavery, between independence and subjugation, between peace and war, and between reunification and division.

We have responded to an urgent call from our national history, breaking the long-forced silence and ending doubt, hesitation and indolence.

Let's hold aloft the banner of democracy, nation and reunification!

(from a handbill distributed by the students at Seoul, Koryo, Kyonghi, Seogang and other universities in south Korea, Nov. 18, 1975)

The reunification of the nation matters most for the Koreans. Reunification is our task number one under whatsoever circumstances. All my ideas, will, reality and ideal concern only the reunification issue. Why? As I have said in the preceding part, I think that root cause of all the tragedies of the 30 odd years since the liberation lies in the division of the nation.

(from the article of Paek Gi Wan, director of the Paekbom Thought Institue, contributed to "The Voice of the People")

EDITORIAL

Democracy First, "Presidential" Election Next

South Korean students and people in other walks of life held on Nov. 24 "a national rally to frustrate the election of an interim president by the national conference for unification" and waged an anti-"government" demonstration in downtown Seoul in defiance of the "martial law" clamped on the whole of south Korea.

The Seoul authorities are now completely isolated among the people as they will convene on Dec. 6 in Seoul the "national conference for unification" to conduct the election under the "*yusin* constitution." The move runs against the demand of the people for the total repeal of the "*yusin* constitution." Apparent is the vicious intention of the present "government" to keep the "*yusin* system" intact.

The Nov. 24 meeting appealed to all the south Korean people to join the struggle for the cancellation of the Dec. 6 "presidential election." It demanded the "complete abolition of the *yusin* constitution," "the formation of a cabinet represented by all democratic forces and supported by the nation" and the "voluntary dissolution of the Democratic Republican Party, and yujonghoe (the "president"-appointed representatives group), its ally, and "the national conference for unification".

It also resolutely opposed any outside forces' interference in the internal affairs of south Korea, warning that the United States should not support the "*yusin* remnants."

The south Korean opposition parties and democratic forces have been waging more vigorous struggles for the withdrawal of the "*yusin*" dictatorial system since Pak Jung Hi was assassinated on Oct. 26.

The Seoul authorities, keen on maintaining the "*yusin*" dictatorial system, are seeking talks with the opposition and democratic forces in an attempt to mislead the south Korean people. They allege that a "gradual reform" is better for south Korea exposed to the "threat of southward invasion from the north."

Under "martial law" declared in order to put down the movement for freedom and democracy, the Seoul authorities have rounded up for 12 days from Nov. 3 on charges of confusing social order a total of over 3,500 persons, including leaders of those organizations which issued statements calling for democracy and freedom.

The south Korean authorities had dialogue with the New Democratic Party designed to disintegrate the democratic forces, while scheming to pick out a new "president" through an indirect election by the "national conference for unification." The south Korean democrats strongly demand that the "constitution" be amended before the "presidential election" projected on Dec. 6.

There is no doubt that these political move were made out after receiving a tacit consent from the Carter administration. The Washington administration calls for democracy serving to maintain security in south Korea.

South Korea's "acting president" Choe Gyu Ha said on Nov. 10 in the special statement that the newly elected "president" should not fill out the remaining years of Pak's term, due to expire in 1984, but instead seek to amend the heavily-criticized constitution Pak enacted and call a second "presidential election." The new chief executive will be elected indirectly by an electoral college called the "national conference for unification" which must be held within three months after the "presidency" becomes vacant. The divisive joint statement was issued among south Korea and the U.S. in order to retain the "*yusin*" system when Vance, the State Secretary of the U.S., visited Seoul on Nov. 3.

Washington promised Seoul to provide a loan of one billion dollars for the construction of an atomic power station when a south Korea-U.S. economic conference was held on Nov. 10 in order to back up the Seoul authorities economically.

The Carter administration put its troops stationed in south Korea on alert so as to threaten the south Korean people when Pak Jung Hi was shot to death. It stands in the way of the reunification of Korea, meddling in the internal affairs of south Korea including the election of the successor of the slain Pak Jung Hi.

The Seoul authorities are stepping up the preparation for holding the "presidential election" under the "*yusin* constitution," running counter to the restoration of democracy.

The south Korean people should choose between two contradicting alternatives: One is the road to the democracy and reunification and the other the road to the "continuation of *yusin* system" and fixed division.

The south Korean people, concerned about the prevailing developments, renew the resolution to take a more active part in an anti-"government" campaign.

The south Korean people voice stronger criticisms of the present "government," as the "national union for democracy and national unification" issued on Nov. 3 a statement demanding the removal of the one-man rule and general resignation of the present "government." Under such circumstance, the anti-"government" meeting and demonstration were held on Nov. 24 in Seoul.

The Yonse and Seoul collegians held on Nov. 27 an anti-"government" meeting in their campuses. The students and citizens held rallies on Nov. 28 and 29 in Kwangju and Seoul against the "presidential election" projected under the "*yusin* constitution."

The nation-wide anti-"government" campaign was inspired by a statement which was issued on Nov. 24 at the meeting. The statement appealed to the south Korean people to rise in a showdown for democracy and scuttle the "presidential election" slated for Dec. 6.

The Seoul authorities must comply with the desire of the people advocating that the amendment of the "constitution" should be placed before the "presidential election".

To this end, all political offenders should be released with the "*yusin* constitution" abolished and the "martial law" and "emergency measures" lifted. In addition, the "anti-communist law" and "national security law" should be annulled because they deny democratic freedom and rights.

Statement for Democratic Campus

Handbills demanding democratic reforms on the campus were distributed on Nov. 22 on the compound of Seoul National University.

On the handbills a statement was printed in the names of 10 student organizations at Seoul National University.

The People's Korea has obtained one of the handbills which said, "Statement for Democratic Reforms on the Campus."

Follows the full text of the statement:

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We, university students, who have suffered from all forms of suppression because of Pak's 18-year-long office and the *yusin* system, desire eagerly that the campus be fully democratized, especially after the Oct. 26 incident.

It is obvious that democratic reforms on the campus should be carried out with the unanimous desire and concerted efforts of all the university students, not by the university authorities or by general measures by the government.

Prerequisites to democratic reforms on the campus are a concrete and institutional guarantee along with the abolition of the remnants of the old system.

Convinced that we are duty-bound to express our opinion as official student organizations, we make the following demands for the democratization of the campus.

We call upon the authorities:

1)to abolish the Student Homeland Defence Corps and revive the Student Council;

2)to completely overhaul school regulations, including the student suspension system, which restricts the fundamental rights of students;

3)to reinstate all the students who were unjustifiably expelled from school under the "yusin constitution";

4)to guarantee the independence of press activities on the campus such as the publishing of school papers, campus bulletins and papers of student circles;

5)to discontinue all forms of campus surveillance and investigation by the police and security authorities and restore the original functions of the administrative office of each university and abolish the headquarters of the consultation office;

6)to expel all the professors, rectors and presidents of all the universities who have supported and tried to defend the *yusin* system, abandoning their duties as conscientious scholars;

7)to prohibit riot police from entering the campus and remove district police boxes;

8)to reinstate the professors who were unjustifiably dismissed under the "yusin constitution" and abolish the professor-screening system.

103 Italian MPs Support Korea Reunion

A joint statement supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was made public in Rome on Nov. 19 by 103 Members of both Houses of Italian Parliament. Among them are Communist Member of the Senate Giglia Tedesco Pato, Socialist Member of the Senate Francesco Spinelli, Independent Member of the Senate Luigi Anderlini, Christian Democratic Member of the Senate Claudio Bitallone, Communist Member of the Chamber of Deputies Mario Pocchetti, Proletrarian Unity Member of the Chamber of Deputies Alfonsco Gianni, Radical Member of the Chamber of Deputies Barco Batto, Independent Member of the Chamber of Deputies Carlo Calantecarone and Socialist Member of the Chamber of Deputies Marte Ferrari.

The statement said:

In connection with the present south Korean situation and on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the adoption of the resolution on the Korean question at the 30th session of the UN General Assembly, we Members of both Houses of the Parliament of the Republic of Italy make public the following statement in support of the initiative on realising the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea through a dialogue, which was put forward again by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea:

Korea, whose nation has lived as a homogeneous nation with one culture, one language and the same customs in one territory from the olden times, has been in a state of division into two for over 30 years, contrary to the will of her people.

During these 30 years the Korean nation has even her elementary right to national reunification trampled underfoot due to the continuous occupation of south Korea by foreign troops and the inteference by outside forces.

The continuation of the artificial division has created a grave tension in that part of the world and caused deep anxiety among all people who desire world peace.

We have followed with keen interest the resumption of a dialogue between the north and the south of Korea for national reunification in early 1979. But the dialogue produced no result.

Hoping that the Korean nation will achieve the country's reunification by a thoroughly independent and peaceful means and with the united efforts of all the political and social forces of the country in accordance with an agreement reached between the north and the south of Korea several years ago and supported at the 30th session of the UN General Assembly, we Members of Italian Parliament assert as follows:

Firstly, we demand that for the immediate resumption of a dialogue for the reunification of the north and the south of Korea, the south Korean authorities refrain from obstructing the free participation of all political parties and social organisations of south Korea in a dialogue and discontinue at once any form of persecution of all political forces desirous of negotiations with the north.

Secondly, we demand that the foreign troops immediately withdraw from Korea in accordance with the resolution of the United Nations so that a favourable condition may be created for a dialogue between the north and the south and the Koreans may realize Korea's reunification on the basis of sovereignty and on the principle of the right to self-determination.

Thirdly, we demand that the Italian government renounce the policy of dividing Korea into two for ever by recognising "two Koreas" in the United Nations and take concrete steps favourable to peace and relaxation of tension in Korea and the reopening of a dialogue between the north and the south of Korea.

We Members of Parliament actively support any initiative advanced for the resumption of a dialogue for the independent and peaceful reunification of the Korean people.

Our View of Present Political Situation

—Statement of S. Korean Students for Freedom, Democracy—

On November 22, a large number of leaflets calling for the restoration of democracy were distributed in various universities, including Seoul National University.

Here is a gist of the leaflet in the names of "Three Catholic Students":

Human beings cannot live without freedom. The day of freedom for which we have been waiting, for a long time is now within our reach.

But there is a danger of another dictatorial system being established if we remain onlookers.

So, on the basis of our recognition of the realities, we express our view on the present political situation.

Aug. 26 Incident

We don't think that the October 26 incident was an outcome of the paranoia of a man. Rather, we think that the incident occurred as part of the unabated struggle of the students and people against the dictatorial regime and for democratization.

The Aug. 11 Y.H. incident and the unlawful and deceitful act of political suppression by the authorities resulted in student-led riots in Pusan and Masan, involving ordinary residents there.

Nov. 10 Special Statement of Acting President

We regard the Nov. 10 special statement made public by acting "president" Choe Gyu Ha as a rash and reactionary act aimed at covering up the criminal acts of the present ruling elements and at protecting their vested rights.

We never forgive metropolitan police chief Li Sun Gu and home affairs minister Ku Ja Chun who must assume responsibility for the Y.H. affair and the Pusan-Masan suppression, and all the other remnants of the *yusin* dictatorship.

Our Determination

On the basis of our view on the present political situation, we do stage a demonstration today in response to the aspirations of the 50 million fellow countrymen who have fought to defend freedom and realize democracy in this country, inheriting the tradition of the student movements which have fought continually under whatever oppressive system and in whatever difficult situation.

Our Demands

Firstly, we demand that politicians who were involved in politics under the *yusin* system resign from their office and that acting "president" Choe Gyu Ha and Democratic Republican Party president Kim Jong Pil bury their lust for power, apologize to the people and step down right away.

Secondly, we consider a "presidential" election through the "National Conference for Unification" as an extention of the *yusin* system whatever reasons the authorities may come up with, and declare that such a "presidential" election would be nothing but a foolish desire of the ruling elements, a desire which runs counter to the trends of the times. Therefore, we call for the dissolution of the "National Conference for Unification," an earlier revision of the present "constitution" to a constitution which will reflect the will of all the democratic forces and people, and call for a general election.

Thirdly, we demand that the three labour rights and other basic rights of the workers and farmers who are deprived of their right to existence under the *yusin* system be guaranteed, and that the authorities stop suppressing farmers' movements.

Fourthly, we, upholding the idea of democracy, demand that the Students Homeland Defence Corps be disbanded and that the Student Council be revived.

Fifthly, we demand that the professors who have denied campus freedom, the just cause of the student movement and the raison d'etre of universities be expelled, and that democratic and conscientious professors be reinstated.

Sixthly, we demand that any forms of undemocratic campus surveillance and investigation by the "government" be discontinued, and that the independence of school papers be ensured.

Seventhly, we demand that those who were dismissed or put into prison because of their activities for democratization be reinstated immediately and unconditionally, and that their rights be restored.

We also demand that the authorities who have unlawfully forced students to serve in the army, stop such acts and that those students now serving in the army be reinstated.

If the authorities call people fighting for freedom and democracy "rioters", we will be "rioters" for ever.

Three Catholic Students
November 22, 1979

Brief News From S. Korean Dailies

$45 Million Deficit in Tourism

• South Korea recorded $45 million deficit in tourism for the first time as of the end of September last, the Bank of South Korea announced on November 22. The figure compares with last year's $200 million surplus. (*The Chung-Ang Ilbo, November 23*)

3 Oil Companies' Net Profit Last Year: 28 Bil. Won

• Three oil refineries of south Korea earned their net profit of 279 billion won last year. Korea Oil Corporation reported a net profit of 18,219 million won, Honam Oil Refinery 6,019 million won, and Kyongin Energy 3,750 million won, according to a survey submitted by the ministry of energy and resources to the national assembly on November 21. (*The Chung-Ang Ilbo, November 21*)

72% of Mining and Industrial Enterprises Employ Less Than 5 People Each

• The total number of mining and industrial enterprises was 112,361 as of the end of last year; of the number 80,741 or 71.9% were petty enterprises with less than five employees each. Those big companies with more than 200 employes were 1,966 or 1.7%. This survey was released on November 21 by the economic planning board. (*The Chung-Ang Ilbo, November 23*)

Most of Electric Blankets Found Defective

• Seventeen of the 20 electric blanket makers were marketing faulty products, the office of industrial advancement administration announced on November 20. The OIAA said that those makers would be deprived of their license and face indictments. The faulty products were ordered called back and scrapped. (*The Choson Ilbo, November 21*)

Foreign Concerns Remit $56 million Home

• Foreign concerns in south Korea remitted home $56 million of their profits last year, the economic planning board revealed on November 21. According to its report, such remittance totalled $98,000 in 1965, $229,000 in 1966, $5,737,000 in 1969, and $60,279,000 in 1977. (*The Dong-A Ilbo, November 22*)

380,339 Criminal Cases by September

• A total of 380,339 criminal incidents occurred in the first 9 months of this year, involving 524,004 people, an increase of 1.9% over the like period last year, it was announced on November 22. According to a report presented that day by the ministry of justice to the national assembly, of the figure, 23%, or 125,133 people, were implicated in assault cases. (*The Dong-A Ilbo, November 23*)

Housing Rents to Be Hiked 35%

• The Housing Corporation announced on November 20 that rents for its apartment houses would be increased by 35% next year. The new across-the-board increase would raise the monthly rents from 18,300 won to 24,700 won. (*The Dong-A Ilbo, November 21*)

Postal Rates to Be Raised by Maximum of 58%

• It was learned on November 21 that all the postal charges would be raised by the maximum of 50% in the new year. The disclosure was made by the minister of communications at the national assembly communications committee session. The telephone rates would be hiked by 45%. A 20-won stamp would become a 30-won stamp, and a postcard would become 15 won from the present 10 won. (*The Choson Ilbo, November 25*)

City Bus, Taxi Fares to Be Hiked by 20-30%

• The ministry of communications revealed on November 22 sharp increases in mass transit rates effective on January 1, 1980. The present city bus rate will be raised from the present 60 won to 70 won, the basic taxi fare from the present 300 won to 400 won, with the additional charge per 400m from the present 40 won to 50 won, the express inter-city bus charges boosted by 20-30%. (*The Choson Ilbo, November 23*)

Academic Facilities in Poor Shape

• Lecture rooms and buildings for academic and administration purposes at universities and colleges are about 40% short o legal requirements, and the shortage is more acute in national institutions than in private ones. (*The Korea Times, November 30*)

Teachers Shortage Rate Mark 21%

• Teachers at primary, middle and high schools are short by 21% of the legally required number. The classroom shortage is 8.6%, according to a report sent to the national assembly.

The education ministry report shows that teachers totalled 170,108 early this year, 79% of the legally required number of 215,386. The shortage is 36.4% in the case of high school teachers. There are only 20,800 teachers at high schools against the required number of 32,690.

Middle schools are suffering a shortage of teachers of 36.9%, having only 32,473 against the legally set number of 51,439.

Primary schools in Seoul suffer a classroom shortage of 7.5% and Pusan 14.7%. (*The Korea Times, November 30*)

Back Pay Legal Suits 5.7 Times Last Year's

• The back pays claimed in civil litigations were 5.7 times as much as last year's, according to a statistical survey released on November 23 by the supreme court. The report listed 196 criminal cases of violations of the labor standards law over the unpaid wages, dismissal allowances bonuses, and compensation money for the shut-down of the companies. They involved 8,633 workers and 1,336,490,000 won in the first 8 months of this year. During the same period, local courts handled 368 civil actions, involving 447 workers and 885,900,000 won. (*The Dong-A Ilbo, November 24*)

Local Water Resources Face Contamination

• Water resources for Seoul and other cities are confronted with possible contamination as the upper reaches of the Han, Raktong and Kum rivers comprise five of the 10 designated local industrial belts, it was disclosed by the economic planning board on November 30.

Despite the ban on the construction of plants on the upper reaches of any river, the economic planning board said that Chungju, Jechon and Munmak, local industrial belts, are located on the upperstream of the Han River, another area Kumchon on the upperstream of the Raktong River and the other Chonwon on the upperstream of the Kum River. (*The Seoul Kyongje Sinmun, December 1*)

Imported Briquets Found Faulty

• A controvesy is brewing over the faulty imported briquets in Seoul. At least 7% of 9-10 million imported briquets daily sold in Seoul are defective, many of them being returned to the shops. According to the city's briquet makers and consumers, those faulty briquets are fragile, explosive and stinky. (*The Seoul Kyongje Sinmun, December 1*)

DPRK Emerging as Major Sports Power

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is emerging as a major sports power in the world.

The DPRK's 24-year-old marathoner Choe Chang Sop finished fifth at the 14th Fukuoka International Marathon held on December 2 in Japan, with the participation of top-notch runners from 15 countries including the DPRK, the USSR, the United States, Canada, England, Australia and Japan.

The DPRK's Kim Ok Son became Asia's fastest female long distance runner, as she placed first in the women's 1,500 meters in 4 minutes 21.0 seconds and 3,000 meters in 9 minutes 24.9 seconds at the Asian Track and Field Meeting of Tokyo 1979 held from May 31 through June at Tokyo's National Stadium. The meeting was participated in by around 280 athletes from 23 countries and regions in Asia. The DPRK athletes won 2 golds, 2 silvers and 1 bronze.

Kim Ok Son also won the women's 1,500 meters and 3,000 meters in the 8th Asian Games held from Dec. 9 to 20, 1978, in Bangkok, Thailand, with the participation of 1,600 athletes from 29 Asian countries. At the meeting, the DPRK sportsmen won 15 golds, 13 silvers and 15 bronzes in various kinds of games such as weightlifting, shooting, gymnastics, athletics, archery, boxing, wrestling, table tennis, basketball and soccer.

The DPRK's 25-year-old weightlifter Han Gyong Si July 25 this year set a new world record in the up to 52 kilogram division at the Sverdlaikad Pre-Olympic Competition, lifting 111 kilograms, half a kilo above the old Olympic exact set by the Soviet weight lifter Alexander Voronin.

The 35th World Table Tennis Championships was hosted by the DPRK in April this year, with the attendance of 75 national teams including an American team. The large-ever-scale championships showed the growing international clout of the DPRK in the world.

Today, all the people in the DPRK — young and old, men and women, students and workers—enjoy sports. In all the schools from kindergartens to universities, and in cities and the countryside, exercises are daily held for the comprehensive, balanced development of physiques.

Calisthenics are very popular. Every year a mass game is given with the participation of more than 75,000 children and students as is praised as a wonderful mass game by the world standards.

Huge gymnasiums and stadiums are available in every province. They include the Moranbong Stadium with 40,000 seats and the Pyongyang Gymnasium with 20,000 seats. Every city and country has more than one gymnastic club and hall.

Almost every school, urban or rural, has its own gymnasium, pool, soccer ground, volleyball court, tennis court, baseball ground, basketball court, and table tennis hall and other facilities for traditional sports such as Korean seesawing and swinging.

So far, Korean sportsmen and women made a strong showing in the international sports meetings.

The opening ceremony of the 35th World Table Tennis Championships held on Apr. 25 at the Pyongyang Gymnasium

This year alone, the DPRK's players participated in various international sports meetings and gained good marks.

The DPRK hosted the 35th World Table Tennis Championships in April last. Participating in the championships were 75 nation's teams including an American team. The girl table tennis players of the DPRK carried off silver medals at the team event of Marcel Corbillon Cup at the championships.

A Korean boy Kim Gwan Jin carried away the gold medal with 19.35 points and Kang Gwang Song the silver medal with 19.25 points in the rings at the Riga International Gymnastic Competitions for 1979 held in Riga, the Soviet Union, from April 3 to 7.

Korean gymnasts scored good results at the Third International Tournament of Gymnastic Mastership held in Konitbus, the German Democratic Republic, from April 22 to 23 last. Kim Gwang Jin finished first in the rings and Kang Gwang Song on the parallel bars. Kang Gwang Song placed second in the rings and Han Gwang Song on the horizontal bar. A young girl Choe Jong Sil finished third on the vaulting horse and Kim Chun Pil on the uneven bars.

DPRK boys Li Byong Uk (48 kg category) and Chang Bong Mun (75 kg category) carried off trophy cups and gold medals and Kim Yun Chol (54 kg category) Han Chun Gil (60 kg category) and Chon Do Hwan (63.5 kg category) silver medals at the 10th "Szczecin Prize" International Boxing Contests held in Poland in May last.

International Women's Volleyball Matches were held at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium between June 15 and 17 last, participated in by Korean, Chinese and Japanese teams. A trophy cup and medals were awarded to the Korean women's volleyball team which placed first at the matches.

The International Men's Junior Friendship Volleyball Matches among Socialist Countries were held between July 5 to 9 in Wonsan, a port city of culture on the east coast of the DPRK, with the participation of the GDR, Poland, the USSR Hungary and the DPRK.

The team of the DPRK placed first by winning all the four matches.

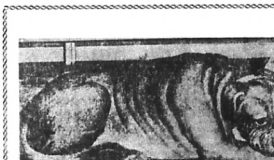
Junior Friendship International Weightlifting Contests of Socialist Countries were held between July 27 and 30 in Nampo, a port city on the west coast of the DPRK. The GDR, Romanian, Bulgarian, Hungarin, Czechoslovak, Cuban and Soviet junior weightlifting teams and the teams of the DPRK(A and B) participated in the contests.

Letters of citation were awarded to the Soviet, Bulgarian and DPRK teams which came first, second and third respectively in the team total.

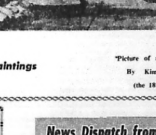
Boxing Championships of Friendly Armies was held between August 30 to September 2 at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, with the participation of more than 50 top-notch members of the boxing teams of the Korean People's Army, the Hungarian People's Army, the Czechoslovak People's Army, the Cuban Revolutionary Army, the Polish People's Army, the Soviet Army and the Korean People's Army.

Members of the boxing team of the Korean People's Army carried off 4 gold medals, 4 silver medals and one bronze medal.

Boxer Ko Yong Jo, People's Sportsman of the DPRK, who had placed first in the 54 kg category at the Montreal Olympic Games in Canada beat GDR boxer Andreas Schink by technical superiority in the 57 kg category to carry away the gold medal at the 10th Berlin International Boxing Tournament on October 7. The tournament was participated in by aces from 18 countries including the DPRK, the GDR, Cuba, Romania Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Canada, Japan and Uganda.



Korean Paintings



"Picture of a Fighting Dog"
By Kim Hong Do
(the 18th century)

DPRK Marathoner Places 5th at Int'l Marathon

The DPRK's 24-year-old marathoner Choe Chang Sop placed fifth in 2:11.40, improving his personal best of 2:15.47, at the 14th Fukuoka International Marathon held on December 2 in Japan. The DPRK's 27-year-old Ko Chun Son placed 19th in the race.

The race was participated in by 112 marathoners from 12 countries including the DPRK, the USSR, the United States, England, and Canada. The race carries great significance with the Moscow Olympic Games about 7 months away.

Choe Chang Sop is a student at Pyongyang College of Health and Physical Education. He participated in the Kosice Marthon for three times and came first in 1975, second in 1977 and second in 1978. He also came second in the marathon at the 8th Asian Games which was held in Bangkok, Thailand in December last.

News Dispatch from Pyongyang

Nov. 17
* A trade protocol for 1980 between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Cuba was signed in Havana.

Nov. 20
* The "George Enescu" Symphony Orchestra of Romania headed by Nicolae Caliniciu, Member of the Executive Bureau of the Council of Socialist Culture and Education of Romania, arrived in Pyongyang.

Nov. 22
* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Yang Hyong Sop left Pyongyang by air to attend the 3rd Congress of the Togoise People's Rally.

Nov. 26
* A delegation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine headed by Taysir Kuba, Member of the Political Bureau, and Director of the External Relations Department, of the PFLP, arrived in Pyongyang by plane.
* A government delegation of the Bulgarian People's Republic headed by Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PFR Georyi Yordanov arrived in Pyongyang by plane to attend the 10th meeting of the inter-governmental economic and scientific-technological consultative committee of the country and Bulgaria.
* A working plan for scientific cooperation between the Academies of Sciences of the DPRK and Poland in 1980-1981 was signed in Pyongyang.

Nov. 28
* A Humboldt University delegation of the GDR deplaned in Pyongyang. (KCNA)

World Bulletin

● The struggle of the Arab people against the occupationists was intensified in the area occupied by Israel.

● A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party was held in Ulan Bator on November 19.

● Islamic leader of Iran Khomeini declared that if the United States attacked Iran, Iranians would kill U.S. hostages and neither warships nor planes could frighten the Iranians.

● Five hundred young people in the capital of Bangladesh staged an anti-U.S. demonstration in from of the U.S. embassy.

● A demonstration of about 2,000 people was held in Zambia against the British policy.

● The session of the Coordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool was held in Belgrade.

● The Fifth Meeting for Industrial Development of the Arab Countries took place in Algiers.

● A regular meeting of the Soviet Composers' Union opened at Kremlin on November 20.

● At a recent news conference Zambian President Kenneth David Kaunda exposed the Rhodesian and South African racists' acts of aggression against Zambia and called upon the Zambian people e to be le full combat readiness to be mobilized at any time in the state of a total war.

● The Twelvth Congress of the Romanian Communist Party was recently held in Buchrest. (KNA)

Brief Korean History (37)

Anti-Japanese Volunteers' Struggle

Children in DPRK

"Merry-Go-Round"
Those children are enjoying a merry-go-round at the Songdowon Pleasury Ground. They are telling each other "My horse is fastest."

Around the time of the occupation of Korea by the Japanese imperialists, anti-Japanese volunteers' struggles were fiercely unfolded in various parts of Korea. In 1904, when the "Korea-Japan protocol" was concluded, volunteers waged fierce struggles in the whole of Pyongan Province.

In 1905, volunteers in Paeksa-bong, Panyong county, Hamgyong Province, dealt a shattering blow at the Japanese invasion troops. Anti-Japanese volunteers' struggle exerted a great influence throughout the country. The "protectorate treaty" of November 1905 which the Japanese imperialists forced Korea to conclude with Japan, triggered off a great rise in the volunteers' struggle.

As soon as the Korean people knew how the "protectorate treaty" was concluded, they burst with national indignation, and anti-Japanese volunteers' struggles spread like wildfire.

During the period between the beginning of 1906 and the end of July the same year, volunteers' struggles were unfolded in the whole area of Korea in Chungcheong, Kangwon, Kyongsang, Cholla and Kyonggi.

In March 1906, volunteers rose in Chorgwan, South Chungcheong Province, led by Min Jong Sik, and joined volunteers in the neighbouring areas dealing a heavy blow at the Japanese aggressors and their cat's-paws, by attacking Sochon, Ponyong and Rampo. In May the same year, this army of volunteers occupied Hongju fortress and repulsed Japanese aggressor troops and feudal government troops.

In June 1906, a volunteer army led by Choe Ik Hyon waged struggles in the Sungchang area of North Cholla Province.

In April 1906, a 1,000-strong army led by Sin Dol Sok in Hyonghae, North Kyongsang Province, fought against the aggressors in the whole of North Kyongsang Province and Kangwon Province.

In response to the upsurge of volunteers' struggles, popular uprisings occurred in various parts of the country—an uprising in Sonan in March 1906, a peasant revolt in Kokuan in November, peasant uprisings in Kimhae, Namhae and Hoedok in March 1907, in Wonsan and Kyonghung in April. In July 1907, tenancer workers of Seoul called a strike against their American manager.

In July, 1907, Seoul citizens developed an anti-Japanese struggle in protest against the "seven-point treaty."

Seoul citizens held a mass meeting and demonstration in the city, exposing and denouncing the crimes of the Japanese imperialists and their followers.

Hong Bom Do led unit of hunters and workers which was active in the northwestern region of Korea, wiped out a company-strong Japanese "punitive unit" in Pukchong. Anti-Japanese volunteers' struggles were a country-wide save-the-nation movement, participated in by patriotic people in all sections of society, spearheaded by peasants.

Even according to doctored data released by the Japanese imperialists between 1907 and 1909, there were 2,672 battles, involving a total of about 138,600 volunteer soldiers.

In 1908, patriotic young men Choi Myong Un and Chang In Hwan killed an American Stevenson, who actively helped the Japanese imperialist aggressors, working as a diplomatic adviser to the feudal government of Korea. In October 1909, Ito Hirobumi, then Governor-General of Korea, was shot to death by An Jung Gun at the Harbin railway station, Manchuria. In December the same year, Li Jae Myong attacked Li Wang Yong, traitor to the nation.

Korean volunteers' struggles during the period between the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, dealt a telling blow at Japanese imperialism. In July, 1909, Japan already made a criminal decision to occupy Korea, but they could not carry it out, afraid of anti-Japanese struggles of the Korean people.

However, the anti-Japanese volunteers' army was unable to overcome its essential weak points, as it was a nationalistic army which represented the interests of landlords and capitalists.

First of all, the anti-Japanese volunteers' army was not able to formulate a correct programme for its struggle which would reflect the interests and demands of the people. Therefore, it could not wage a struggle based entirely upon the people. The anti-Japanese army failed in drawing to its ranks the broad masses of people. The anti-Japanese army failed in establishing close ties with the patriotic cultural enlightenment movement which was then being unfolded at that time. Not a few volunteers generals advocated the idea, instead of struggling against him who was a traitor to the nation.

Unable to have strong ties with the masses of people and suppressed by the enemy superior in numbers, the anti-Japanese volunteers were unable to continue its activities at home.

After 1910 the volunteer army soldiers moved the theatre of their struggle to Manchuria and Siberia. Although the anti-Japanese volunteers' struggle suffered setbacks due to the lack of guidance by the advanced class and the lack of organization, it demonstrated to the world the patriotism of the Korean people and their anti-imperialist spirit.

Visit to Scenic Spots in Korea (11)

Songdowon Resort

The seashore resort at Songdowon which is situated in Wonsan City, Kangwon Province, facing the East Sea of Korea, is a famous summer resort in the DPRK. Especially its swimming beach is popular with the people.

It is a large pleasure ground with a circumference of 10 km. The seashore which extends from Wonsan City has a long snow-white sandy beach. In summer, the seashore beach is fringed with red azeolas. Behind the beach are the thick woods of tens of thousands of trees—pine, maple and oak trees. In the pine woods are found several small ponds covered with floating lotus flowers. Silver carp (crucians), carp and other fishes live there. Beyond the woods, one can find wide lawn areas looking just like a green carpets. Many flower plants grow there to greet the visitors throughout the four seasons.

At the foot of Mt. Changdok to the south of the Songdowon resort, there are a large zoo, a botanical garden and an open-air theater.

The swimming beach is the most attractive in the Songdowon resort, which is found in the north to south in the sea and Kalma Point to the south of the Songdowon beach. The tow points are close to each other at their tips, embracing the beach. Between the two points there are many small islands—Tando Island, Bindo Island, Undo Island and Ryodo Island. The inland sea looking like a lake is called Tongchon Bay.

As the inland sea is calm and as the depth of the sea is suitable for swimming, the Songdowon beach is considered the best place for swimming in the country. Diving platforms are set in various places in the shallow waters and boats, yachts, canoes and water skiing facilities are available.

The Songdowon resort has a juvenile corps' central camping ground and more than ten small camping grounds and sanatoria. Various sports and amusement facilities are provided there. (To be continued)

Part of the Songdowon beach, Wonsan of the East Sea Coast

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